



Tennessee News Release

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

A SECOND CONSECUTIVE OUTSTANDING WHEAT CROP FOR TENNESSEE FARMERS

NASHVILLE, July 11, 2012 – Tennessee wheat growers in 2012 experienced an exceptionally dry and very warm spring which paved the way for the earliest harvest in over forty years. Harvest was a full two weeks ahead of the normal pace. According to a July 1 survey conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee's winter wheat production totaled 23.1 million bushels, up 8 percent from a year ago and the largest crop since 2008. The state's average yield is an estimated 66.0 bushels per acre, the second highest yield ever registered and 3 bushels shy of the 2011 record. Tennessee farmers seeded 420,000 acres last fall, no change from the previous year. Wheat for harvest as grain totaled 350,000 acres, 40,000 more than a year ago. The remaining 70,000 acres were used as a cover crop, abandoned, or harvested for hay or silage.

U.S. WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION

U.S. Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.67 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the June 1 forecast but up 12 percent from 2011. Based on July 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at 47.7 bushels per acre, up 0.4 bushel from last month and 1.5 bushels more than last year. The area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 35.0 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 29, 2012 but up 8 percent from last year.

Hard Red Winter, at 1.01 billion bushels, is down 1 percent from a month ago. Soft Red Winter production is up slightly from last month and now totals 429 million bushels. White Winter production totals 232 million bushels, up slightly from last month. Of this total, 14.0 million bushels are Hard White and 218 million bushels are Soft White.

Winter Wheat: Tennessee, Surrounding States, and U.S., July 1, 2012 with Comparisons¹

State	Acreage Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
	1,000 Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels	
Arkansas	520	460	58.0	55.0	30,160	25,300
Georgia	200	200	55.0	44.0	11,000	8,800
Kentucky	440	470	70.0	62.0	30,800	29,140
Mississippi	335	430	64.0	56.0	21,440	24,080
Missouri	680	690	50.0	56.0	34,000	38,640
North Carolina	610	770	68.0	58.0	41,480	44,660
TENNESSEE	310	350	69.0	66.0	21,390	23,100
Virginia	250	270	71.0	65.0	17,750	17,550
United States	32,314	35,023	46.2	47.7	1,493,677	1,670,346

¹ 2012 forecast, 2011 final.